

ABENG

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**"WE WANT OUR PEOPLE TO THINK FOR THEMSELVES."
MARCUS GARVEY**

DUCKENFIELD

WHY WORKERS SAY NO SUGAR CROP

SIGNPOST

PROSTITUTION TO TOURISM

The Tourist Industry is said to be doing a fine job for Jamaica. We are continually told that so many thousand visitors have come. They have spent so many million pounds. Where does the money go? And what does the present programme cost us?

A large part of tourist expenditure goes back out of Jamaica—40% by the last survey—on foreign goods that tourists buy here and for profit earned by the foreign owners of hotels.

We feel that the social cost of the present programme is totally unbearable. Jamaicans are denied access to the best beaches in the country. Jamaicans are refused service and thrown out of hotels. And look below what the Tourist Board tells foreigners about us.

Good God! This kind of thing makes Jamaica out to be a prostitute nation. We refuse to be prostituted. We would prefer no tourist industry at all than to be made to suffer this kind of indignity. We can get visitors on more dignified terms.

We warn the Minister of Trade and Industry, the Tourist Board and Government that if they continue this kind of foolishness, the people of this country will mash up the tourist industry.



SOME WORKERS ON PROTEST IN DUCKENFIELD

EVERYTHING CRASH

AT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

COUNCILLORS IN BRAWL

Councillors were kicked and thumped, chairs, glasses, ash-trays and other things were thrown, at last week Thursday's meeting of the Portland Parish Council. The meeting, the last to be held before the Parish Council elections, ended in a fight.

The cause of the uproar was a charge that a member of the Council was using a truck for private work while being paid by the Parish Council.

A JLP member is alleged to have said "You no see that a we in power now. We can't wrong... for what we do is well done, and we naw stop to listen to opposition voice again..."

Councillor Hall said that sort of thing could not be allowed to go on. The row started. Chairman Lascelles Tucker started to put motions to the house. When Councillor Hall took the seat that he was sitting on and put it on the Chairman's table, tension flowed through both supporters and opposition. After that a fire brigade officer from the Port Antonio Fire Station was seen bleeding from one eye and from his mouth while a PNP Councillor was seen bleeding from his lips.

The fight ended before the police, who had been summoned, appeared on the scene. There was no further convening of the meeting for both PNP and JLP Councillors stayed outside the Parish Council building until late afternoon.

This is an abbreviated version of an original Jamaica Tourist Board advertisement which appears regularly in American Magazines.

Both factory and field workers at the Duckensfield Sugar Estate have said there will be no crop until a particular Estate employee is fired. This protest has gone on for the past eight weeks. The Estate management says the workers have no claims and have taken no action against the employee.

Last week, a man who was shot twice, died in bed. Late in December, the dead body of one of the workers was discovered in the field and factory workers refused to return to work until the Estate management fired the man the workers suspected of doing the killing. A recent union proposal was to lay him off while a tribunal was set up to investigate the workers' complaints. The Sugar Estate management did not accept this. Several reports have been published, one by the Sugar Manufacturers' Association (Gleaner, Feb. 18, 1969) saying that workers had "no valid reason" for their "senseless stoppage".

ABENG spoke to several of the workers in Duckensfield. We found out that they walked off their jobs in an act of solidarity with their slain brother and in protest against an estate management which the workers feel threatens their lives by refusing to act on their complaints.

WORKERS SAY

One worker reports that two of them were threatened by this same employee in the presence of the police at the police station when they were making a report about the death in December. He is alleged to have made for his gun and had to be restrained by a policeman. After the police left, he is alleged to have threatened the two workers again.

There are also reports of the reckless way in which he handles firearms in the vicinity of the workers, their children and their homes.

He is said to have shot tied animals, and one worker sums it up this way: "Like him don't want us to live... we must eat bread from the Estate alone, we mustn't have we own... The man shoot all goat, Him threaten fisherman who passing through the Estate. Down to ants him want shoot!"

JUSTICE - RIGHTS

In the centre of Duckensfield somebody shouted—"Is a black man crisis all 'bout..."

We must understand the reasons behind long work stoppages which occur a long while before the first union delegate knows anything. Duckensfield Sugar Estate is part of Jamaica Sugar Estates—a foreign owned concern. The workers feel they are being chained to growing sugar for some foreigner.

"Until we get our justice—rights, we not working for them," another told us. The concern of the Sugar Manufacturers Association and the estate owners is profit. The workers know this. That is why they have independently struck out, as they have done many times before, in defiance of the estate. They have acted together to protect themselves against a sugar estate system which they feel murders black people and couldn't care less. The workers' verdict is, "Sugar will not be grown like this."

TELL THE WORKERS

The workers must be told:

1. Was there a post mortem examination of the body of the dead man?
2. Have the police collected statements?
3. Are any criminal proceedings being taken?
4. Is a Coroners Inquest going to be held?
5. Does the estate intend to continue employing this man?

It is interesting that a labour dispute could continue for eight weeks like this in the constituency of the Minister of Labour.

JAMAICA

Jamaica's rent-a-villas come with rent-a-cooks, rent-a-maids, rent-a-nannies, rent-a-gardeners, and even rent-a-cars.

You can rent a lovely life in Jamaica by the week.

It starts with a country house or beach cottage or hilltop hideaway, this comes equipped with gentle people named by or Maud or Maudie who will cook, wash, mend, shop, and launder for you.

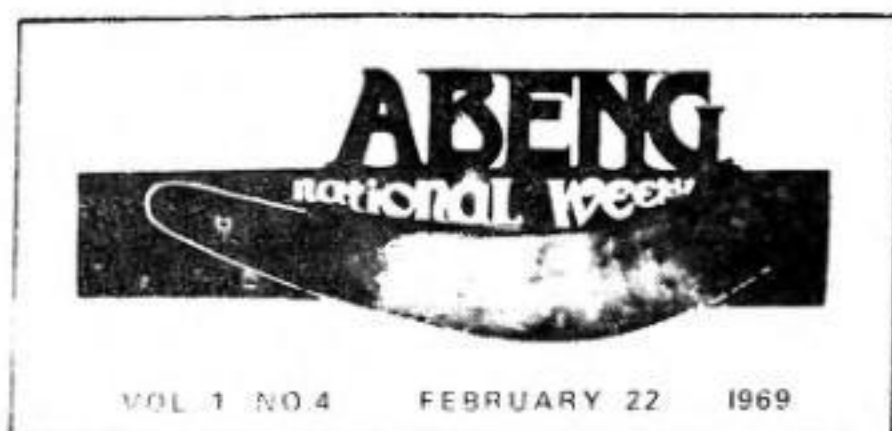
Who will "Mother" your "please" you all day long, pamper you with homemade coconut pie, and serve you when you look "silly" (hand some, giggle at your jokes and keep when you leave).

A kind of Nannyhood for townships, actually.

They'll spoil you.

But you'll also spoil yourself.

For more about renting the life You wish You Led, see your local travel agent or Jamaica Tourist Board in New York, Miami, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Chicago, Toronto or Montreal.



ONCE MORE TO THE FARCE

The Parish and City Council elections due to be held on March 18th can only result in greater discontent, bitterness, and rural decline. Once again our people are being called upon to throw themselves against each other in furthering the aims of career-mad politicians. Once more the national economy will be ground down to pay the costs of supporting the political regime.

Out of all this must come a new awareness by the people of how they are using their power. Elections only give authority to the representatives. Power remains with the people. The fact that power every day seems to have passed to politicians only shows us how far the process of disempowerment has gone.

The centre of interest in these local government elections will be the fight over who controls the K.S.A.C. In addition, both the political parties will be running for the first time their "new" recruits. These people come predominantly from the younger business and professional groups. Hungry for a role in administering political corruption, they will be paraded before the electorate by the P.N.P. as "managerial experts" and by the J.L.P. simply as practical men who understand the "pay-off" system of politics.

If the Corporate Area elections, however, are to have any meaning for its citizens, they must demand that the K.S.A.C. get the power to tax all those big industrial establishments to pay for the City's upkeep. In the most depressed area of the City, Western Kingston, we find the most profitable manufacturing concerns. The executives all live in the hills in big houses. They drive big cars to work every morning and leave behind them in the afternoons the suffering humanity of Kingston.

RICH MUST PAY

Well, if they want to continue this business, we must see to it that they pay handsomely for these privileges. Overnight it could result in vast improvements taking place in the City's housing, health, education, sewerage, and job training. Most of the lands on the Industrial Estate were practically given away to foreign corporations. That was Mr. Manley's special "dream". Today our people cannot even sleep, much less dream. Let the people know their rights and put an end to all such dreaming. Tax the fat profits or tell the corporations to get out of Western Kingston.

The elections also pose a much more fundamental issue. Local government must be taken out of the grip of party politics and the stronghold of central government. It is neither government for the people nor is it local. It is a degrading and bankrupt extension of central government authority.

During slavery, the Vestries were used by the planters to arrange for the upkeep of the Anglican Church, roads and prisons. It was necessary to the system of slave exploitation. Today what does Local Government defend except the backwardness of our rural life, so as to ensure the survival of the most unproductive association in this country - Government and Parties.

The people must demand a completely new form of local government - their own! Representatives elected by the Agricultural Societies, Teachers, School Boards, Workers, Youth Groups, etc., and only these representatives can plan and work out the reconstruction of rural Jamaica.

As in politics generally today, time for the people to take charge.

THE WAY OUT

"The way out of this is hard. There is only one way. The people must organize themselves according to the best methods of the day which they find suitable for themselves. . . . By independent political activity they find out what they can do, their privileges and their responsibilities."

C.L.R. JAMES

THE POLICE, VIOLENCE AND CRIME IN JAMAICA
will be the subject of
A FORUM
at the Extra-Mural Centre, Camp Road.
MONDAY the 24TH FEBRUARY at 7:30 P.M.
New World Group
Extra-Mural Department

BLOW THE HORN TELL THE PEOPLE

IN FRONT

The Editor,

Sir,

You may not have noticed, but the sounds of ABENG seem to be shaking the "mighty" Gleaner. I draw your attention to three cases where that daily has printed something after the sound had first come from ABENG:

1. The Abeng report on "Confusion in the Courts" of February 8 was much later the subject of a Thomas Wright report in the Gleaner of February 18.

2. The Abeng story on Mandlane's murder (African Battleline) in your issue of February 15 was soon the subject of a Gleaner editorial on February 18.

3. Mrs. Gloria Cumper's letter on social services and politics in West Kingston printed in your issue of February 15 appeared subsequently on February 17 in the Gleaner (with Mrs. Cumper's date-mark as February 3).

Keep up the good work. Keep blowing the horn - the walls of Jericho are shaking already.

Yours etc
OBSERVER.

13 Victoria St,
Falmouth,
10/2/69

The Editor

I have read your Abeng newspaper, and I have found it very interesting. It has shown conditions of the past and present, and I asked myself this question, where were all these facts?

I have decided to make a contribution to this press at the earliest date.

Please let me have an early reply.

SUFFERER

R.A. Harrison

Dear Abeng,

Seriously I like you and appreciate your forthright news efforts be they right or wrong ethically. But I must confess I am the critic of the critics and am sorely tempted to make a complete, clean and honest breakthrough everytime I read and enjoy your latest edition. And how very fortunate you are to merit high praise from a comrade-in-arms who like you is sure of his stuff.

Best wishes for continued success and support.

I am etc.
"Fence-sitter."

OCTOBER 16TH

The Editor,

Please allow me space in your column to comment on the Prime Minister's statement, tax-payers shall pay for damage done during the October 16th riot.

It is a dictatorial statement to make by any Prime Minister of a democratic country, to state that tax-payers must pay for damage done by violent demonstrations. The fact is that Jamaica is not the only country that demonstrations of that nature go on. To call upon tax-payers to face the penalty is no solution whatsoever.

Let's face facts, Mr. Prime Minister, there were two types of

demonstrations. One was by the U.W.I. students peacefully. Before the attack of the police, the other was a total dissatisfaction with Government Administration which affected the poorer class of people. In your capacity as Prime Minister, you should think twice before making those nonsensical statements, because things like those are the fulfillment of time.

Therefore your statement cannot be right. The nation is overburden with the present tax-pressure and economical frustration. I will not hesitate to tell you Mr. Prime Minister, that the immediate thing to tackle is present unemployment rate which is rising day by day, and also non-Jamaicans sneaking in the island as tourist and enjoying better benefits than Jamaicans.

The right thing to do as Prime Minister is reduce you and your ministers' salaries, and it will help to solve the problem.

I am,

N.J. SAUNDERS

FOREIGNERS

Dear Abeng,

With foreigners I experienced a sensation of humiliation so painful that from their friendship came to me more bitterness than satisfaction. I was ashamed of being Jamaican and West Indian. The cold behaviour of the English, the tranquil and self-confident pride that could be seen on their countenances looked as if they were intended for me. to make me feel inferior; to make me understand that when a nation is prey of anybody economically when it allows all sorts of people from the four quarters of the world to come to it to amuse themselves, just as hunters migrate to regions where the game abounds, then those who belong to such a nation can be tolerated among foreigners, but cannot be considered their equal, ever.

I am,

A Blackman.

CINEMA

Dear Abeng,

The state of the cinema in Jamaica is disgraceful. Has nobody seen it? We are being fed a steady diet of American trash. White people are killing us. The whole history of the black man since whites overpowered them has been a brutal nightmare. Whites have exterminated every other race which they had a mind to exterminate. The black man so far has eluded him in spite of the most overwhelming barbarities. Now it seems as if the cinema is doing what brute force couldn't do. The cinema is killing

us. While we go to see it and get lost in its spell we are dead. It is telling us straight and clear that we are dead; that we never had a history; that we were not a great people; that we have no culture. Black people are always slaves, serfs. They are murdered in cold blood even as the Indian.

We have such movies as "Massacre Time", "How To Steal The World", "Adios Hombre" (very sinister). Just who controls the cinemas? Certainly no Jamaican, unless he is deprived maniac, would ask for such films. So who's running the show? Jamaicans have a right to know what goes on in their popular culture. The same rubbish is shown to everyone all over the island, so let us all wake up and take notice. Black people are starved of culture in any meaningful sense. This keeps them suspended in a world of non-being, of unreality. We need to see films made by blacks. What about the films made in Watts. What about the thousands of documentaries

made by blacks in the States and in Africa? Why don't Jamaicans try to make their own films? What is the Government doing to sponsor such a venture? Please tell us somebody. We want to know. After three centuries of deprivation Jamaican citizens deserve as much knowledge of their African ancestry as possible.

I am etc.

Critic.

ASHENHEIM

The Editor,

Dear Sir,

This letter concerns the appalling situation whereby Ministers of Government are allowed to hold private positions which are in conflict with the public interest. To my knowledge, the most outstanding known case is Neville Ashenheim. This gentleman is a member of the Cabinet and at the same time Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Cement Company - a firm with a monopoly franchise.

Now, housing conditions for the majority of people in Jamaica are deplorable! Therefore Government, in the public interest, seek to make building materials (particularly cement) as cheap as possible for consumers. But shareholders in the Cement Company would, in their private interest, want to secure the highest possible price for cement. How, then, can Ashenheim reconcile his dual conflicting roles?

From the evidence - i.e. the present price of cement - his private interest reigns supreme over his public responsibility. Ashenheim should therefore resign from the Cabinet, or alternatively, he should turn his Cement Company shares over to Government or dispose of them some other way. That is the pattern in the very countries our leaders claim to follow.

I wanted to bring this matter to public attention long ago. I wrote to the Gleaner but my letter was never published. Of course I should have known better because the same Mr. Ashenheim is a major shareholder in the Gleaner Co. And his brother, Leslie, is Chairman of the Gleaner Co. Board.

Thanks to ABENG for coming to the rescue.

Yours etc.

George Beckford.

BUY ABENG EVERY WEEK

WHAT WE HAVE TO DO TO GET WORK



Keep On Pushing ?

Marcus Garvey



THE WEST INDIAN FEDERATION

As it appears to us the matter of West Indian Federation is only a question of time. The trend of modern political and economic development is in that direction. Indeed every step taken by either one or the other of the Members of the Great Archipelago and approved of by the Mother Country is a definite step toward Federation. Forces in operation for the last half a century - e.g. Neglect by the Mother Country and consequent decay of the Islands, the peaceful penetration and covetous designs of America, the Aspirations of Canada, for territorial expansion in the Tropics and the growing consciousness of oneness, if not unity, of the people of African origin in all the Archipelago, are components of the great, the mighty moving force and spirit of all things West Indian today.

DISINTEGRATING IDEAS DISMISSED

At one time there was a prevailing apathy even in respect of our individual political and economic status and we lived on the bubble reputation of "This Ancient and Loyal Colony" and loyally starved. We defeated American Diplomacy in her peaceful penetration and her doctrine of our peaceable but inevitable gravitation into the U.S. as a geographic and economic necessity, for we abhorred their Negro problem with its sharp distinctions, and racial antagonisms and were content with our own organised system of social hypocrisy maintained under the principle of of the unwritten law of English colonisation - divide and rule. We repudiated the arguments of Crowe and other publicists of his type for absorption into Canada. Gradually, consciously, and independently the several islands have moved forward into a larger share of political freedom and now the larger question of **FEDERATION LOOMS IN VIEW** as the only solution of the problems of the West Indies. Federation of the West Indies with Dominion status is the consummation of Negro aspiration in this Archipelago.

FEDERATION HAS BEGUN

And Federation has already begun. It develops apace. Cricket has come into her own with Australia and South Africa. The College of Tropical Agriculture in Trinidad is expression in part of our common needs and aspiration. The recent Press Conference in Barbados and its vast cal Agriculture in Trinidad is expression in part of our common needs programme of work tend to the development of the same idea. The Treaty with Canada has drawn the Islands as an entity into commercial relationship with the Dominion of the North.

The Jamaica Producers' Association though strictly Jamaican cannot fail to exercise an accelerating influence in developing the idea, and the coming Convention of the U.N.I.A. to be held in this Island, though wider in its outlook than West Indian, cannot but impart a most healthy stimulus to the cause of **FEDERATION**.

We should realise the true position in the scheme of West Indian Federation now in the course of development. These movements anticipate the end. The outlook is fascinating beyond degree. No Negro can be unmoved by the picture.

Let us realise and not forget - the West Indies is Negro, nothing else but Negro. There are a few whites in the population and they exploit and dominate the situation. When they cease to exploit they will cease to dominate. The West Indies with free Dominion Status postulates **Negro Education, Negro Politics, Negro Government, Negro Freedom, Negro Civilisation**. It will be a British Dominion with the Negro ruling honouring all the traditions of the Great Empire to which he belongs.

"THE BLACKMAN" EDITORIAL
Thursday, May 2, 1929

(This final article discusses "What Black People Have To Do To Get Work.")

What we are today is the result of 300 years of history. To change it, will not be easy. Remember this - Jamaica is just a part of big firms based in the United States, Canada and Britain. We are a small part of the world-imperialist system.

First, it will be painful to those companies who control our national wealth for the benefit of

their shareholders. Chief among these are the bauxite companies and the sugar estates. Close behind them come the banks and insurance companies. It will be painful to them because they will be required to conform to a national plan for the use of natural resources for national employment or get out. They will want to do neither. These

big companies will pay willing Jamaicans to oppose, harass and generally give a hard time to any political movement or any Government adopting such policies. These big companies will get their friends in the international press to find assorted devils in such a movement or Government.

These big companies will pay, as they said about the Congo, that the natives of Jamaica like to eat white people, and they will use Sparrow's calypsoes as proof. These big companies will use their political influence with their home governments to cut off the flow of aid and capital to Jamaica and possibly of imports. These big companies will promote the use of military force and the threat of force. These big companies will say that democracy has been subverted in the Western Hemisphere. Jamaica will therefore have to be ready for a struggle the like of which it will not have experienced before;

PAINFUL TO OTHERS

This will be painful to wealthy Jamaicans as well. They own several huge cars and houses. Luxury living must stop especially when suffering is so widespread. This will be painful to the politicians. These politicians build and own too many houses and cars because of their office. The present politicians thrive on unemployment. For, where many people scramble for a few jobs he who controls these jobs controls votes. Politicians deal in too much fish-head. The politician of full employment will have to base his support on his ability to share the life, the problems and the possibilities of people recreating their economic life. They will have to communicate these to the national centre, and in turn to communicate national problems to his own constituents with honesty and in the faith that people will respond.

Lastly, it will be painful to some without work. This is because they have known nothing else in their lives and have surrendered to hustling, crime, gunplay and a life which lacks sustained application to any demanding task. For many of these it will mean going to craft and technical schools. It will mean going from one part of the island to another. It will mean giving voluntary labour for social services from which they will directly benefit. Yet we feel that for these people the transition will be easiest, though not without difficulty. For

it is they who have the least to lose and the most to gain.

LET IT BE KNOWN

We will not scramble like dogs for scraps and leftovers from the tables of the rich. A growing portion of this young population is condemned to this. Where this condition exists, there will be anger, hatred, crime and violence. The privileged can only survive by suspecting everyone who is black and badly dressed, by sleeping with one ear open and a gun beneath the pillow and by keeping savage dogs. The Government can only survive by arming and increasing the police and encouraging them to drop the traditional colonial niceties; by expanding the army and using it in frequent shows of naked force.

In this situation we must remember that we want work and not handouts now and then. Not handouts at election-time and Christmas. If we want this we have to own and run this country ourselves. No other people will do it for us.

(See New World Pamphlet on unemployment)

sit down and ruin the poor man! I tell you, Jamaicans don't want it to be done like this and it isn't going to be done so. They have throw out our native black brother Dr. Walter Rodney saying he is a threat to the country with subversive elements. He is not a threat. If he is a threat, I would say that there are plenty subversive elements in this country and the Government and the capitalist is a part of destiny. Is there any future in the eyesight for tomorrow's brothers and sisters in our land? Do we citizens see any thing that good for our younger generation?

We must get down to business with a fearless heart. This is what we Jamaicans want to understand. We have no country whatsoever because it is on the brink of indebtedness under our own "No nonsense" of false fools. We are in slavery chain. We are like in the days gone by now. What must be done? Let us come together and move to the right thing that we Jamaicans should get. Go hand in hand like brothers and sisters and let the big shots look on us to see that we are in love and peace and unity and strength. That will do a good job until we conqueror and get the wealth of of our contry. **WE SHALL OVERCOME, SOME DAY.**

Claude Merriman.

SUFFERER'S DIARY

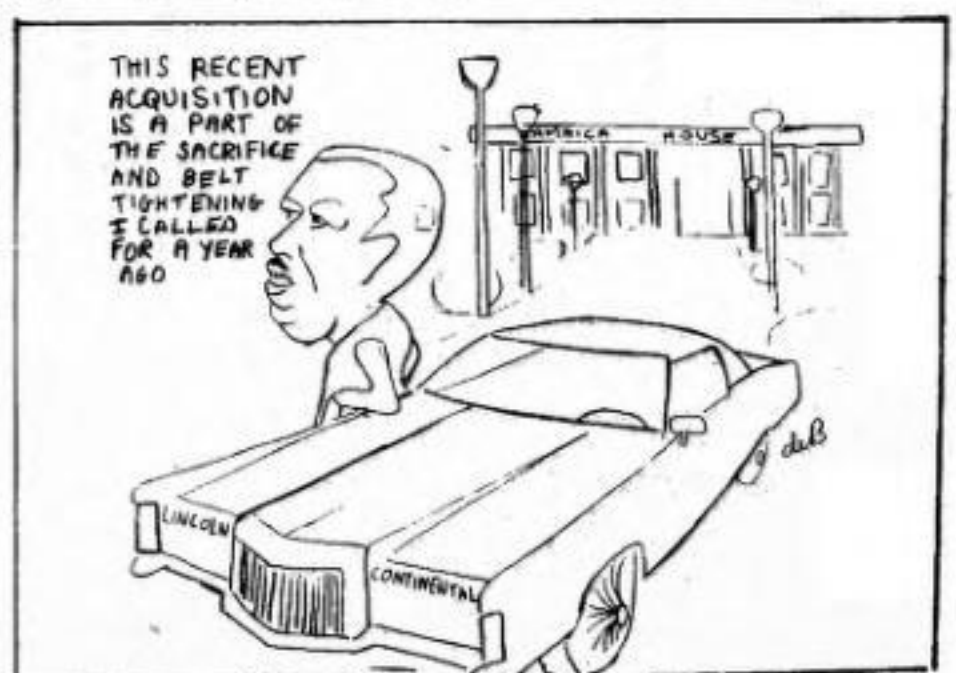
49 Cornwall St.
Falmouth,

I would like to write this article on who are the rudies? What is their cause? A statement on the current trends among the youth in Jamaica.

Proceeding from the recent general election, the Jamaican have been witnessing a continuation, and development of the youths, better armed with guns they have acquired since the last general election. Robberies of banks have increased and noticeably an advancement to robberies of business establishment and private institutions. This naturally generate the wrath and fear of those of wealth and privilege and also the concern of the working-class that are the main victims of the working capitalist and of the criminal action of their sons. Therefore the Government was called upon to restrain the action of these youths. Replying to the call, the new Prime Minister publicly declared a free hand to the police to use any measure in the persecution of the rudies. Threats are also made to enact laws which will inflict harsher punishment even against youths of **PRIMARY SCHOOL AGE**, who are involved in crimes of violence.

The conduct of the youths of every nation is the undeniable product of the social life of the nation. This nation cannot therefore free itself of blame for the conduct of its youth, nor can it permit justifi-

able anger and fear lead to victimization of its youths while doing nothing tangible to resolve the economical and social problems which has created anger, starvation and poverty in the country. The action of our youths is cause by the oppression of social injustice and the false oppressors of our native land. The situation must be examine publicly so that all can see. Every citizen must know the right to acquire the truth of his national problems and what is to be done about it in our sight. Can't we see that our national birth-place is getting into a turmoil of destruction? How long will we allow the unemployed and uneducated to go like wild beast and the capitalist and imperialist oppressors, the big whiskey drinkers,



STUDENTS FIGHT RACISM IN CANADA

AFRICAN BATTLELINE by Dime Ogun

SPORT by Foggy Burowes



GUINEA AND THE STRUGGLE

This week let us look at another struggle for independence which is going on in a land "owned" by the Portuguese in West Africa, next to the Republic of Guinea, which used to be ruled by France and is now independent, lies another country called Guinea, at present ruled by Portugal. It is a small country, not very much bigger than Jamaica, and it has less people - fewer than one million. Yet the people of Guinea are putting up one of the toughest struggles against their oppressors in the whole of Africa, and black people everywhere should know of this fact and be proud of it.

Just as in Mozambique and Angola, their other African colonies, the Portuguese did nothing for the people of Guinea. Although the Portuguese have ruled Guinea for five hundred years, 99 per cent of the African population are illiterate. Only fourteen of them have university degrees. Portugal never trained one African as a doctor, so that the doctors now serving with the freedom fighters have had to be trained secretly in the Soviet Union.

The leader of the struggle for independence is himself one of the few Africans who the Portuguese allowed to get a higher education, a man named Amilcar Cabral, who is an agricultural expert. Educated African he had the chance to turn his back on his fellow black men, but he did not. In the course of his work he met the sufferers everywhere, and he came to see that only independence would ease their

suffering. In August 1959, when the dock workers in Bissau, the capital of Guinea, went on strike, the Portuguese colonial police shot down fifty of them. Cabral then saw that the only answer of the violence of the police and troops of the colonial regime was armed rebellion. In 1963 the freedom fighters began their guerrilla war.

By 1968 one half of the country was in the hands of the freedom fighters, and they were active in the other half as well. The Portuguese army was in control only in the towns, like Bissau. Portugal has about 30,000 troops in Guinea, which is proportionately equal to the number of American troops in Vietnam. But just as the U.S. imperialists cannot defeat the freedom fighters in Vietnam, so the Portuguese imperialists are being beaten in Guinea. It is the U.S.A., along with West Germany, Italy, Canada and other western countries, which is supplying weapons to the Portuguese. Napalm bombs from the U.S.A. are used to set fire to African villages and burn black men, women and children.

And yet, though the might of Portugal, supported by the other representatives of white "civilization," is against them, the freedom fighters, led by Amilcar Cabral and aided by Cuba, the Soviet Union and others, are winning. They are gathering strength for the final push to sweep the Portuguese into the sea. At the same time they are laying the foundation for a new independent blackman's Guinea. How they are doing this we will see next week.

COMPETITORS UNION NEEDED

Jamaica Amateur Athletic Association President, Mal Spence, must take full blame for the confusion and disorder at a recent meeting called to elect officers for that Association. Wes Clayton and his group felt that no executive of the association had spoken on their behalf concerning any aspect of the Mexico Olympic Games issue. They felt too that Clayton's failure to get the 1st Vice-Presidency meant that the Clayton group would be dejected throughout the night. They foresaw nothing but frustration for people who really mattered most in athletics - the competing athlete.

They foresaw nothing but silence from the executives on really vital issues. They used blue-lights and it seems certain that they will be out of favour with the officials for some time.

The whole thing is of course most unfortunate. Mal Spence sought office because he knew that the competitors were being neglected. He got the Presidency because those competitors had faith in him. During his year of office he did put competitors first. At least he did so until the McDonald Scandal.

COLD FEET

Between the Mexico Olympics in October and the JAAA's meeting in January, Spence never came out denouncing the Bridge Folly or the McDonald Vanity. He never expressed anger or distress that the athletes were snubbed. After all why an additional honour conferred on this vain self-seeking egotist? Why not confer the first honour on Clifton Forbes or a worthy competitor?

The impression was given in the Daily Gleaner that all the representatives present at the meeting gave Bridge a vote of confidence. It must have made Clayton and the other athletes nod to think that their President had so betrayed them. Has Spence forgotten his original mission? Has he decided that the competitors cannot win? I don't think so. What then has happened.

Those feet which burnt up the track at Sabina Park, Melbourne Australia, Rome, Tokyo, Cardiff and Nebraska got cold when asked to tread on the toes of McDonald, Bridge and our daily misleaders. He ran away hoping to fight another day.

SELVES TO BLAME

And yet the competitors have only themselves to blame for what ever they suffer. Neither the footballers, cricketers boxers nor any of the other competitors have identified themselves with Miller. They do not see that they too can be treated as Miller has been. No nominee for the Sports Award of the Year has declined nomination. Very likely they like Spence are afraid of the consequences.

Wes, do not blame Mal alone. Do not despair if you are not on on the JAA's executive. The competitors need organising. This could be your most powerful weapon. The JAA can be shackled by the Jamaica Olympic Association in a way that the organised competitors can never be.

Two students from Sir George William's University, Terence Ballantyne and Patrick Townsend, have left Jamaica for Trinidad to raise funds for 96 students now on trial in Montreal. They are travelling through the Caribbean on a fund-raising tour. Following is a diary of events which tell the story of the fight students are making against white racism in Canada.

April 1968 - a charge of Racial Discrimination was laid against Perry Anderson, a lecturer in Biology at Sir George William University by six West Indian students - three of whom are Jamaicans;

December 5, 1968 - Administration agreed to set up a committee agreeable to the students and Perry

other actions - Administration called in the cops. Until one hour before the police, Administration was appealed to by three black Professors to speak to students to avoid violence. Administration refused to listen to students. In a student-police fracas, computer destroyed. Ninety-six were arrested and taken to jail 39 of whom are West Indians,



TERENCE BALLANTYNE & PAT TOWNSEND FROM SIR GEORGE WILLIAM'S UNIVERSITY, WITH ABENG REPORTER AT AIRPORT

Anderson, to investigate the charges. Committee formed January 22, 1969, two members of the Committee subsequently resigned.

January 25, 1969 - Administration formed a Committee without consulting students. Students requested that new Committee be formed as it had been decided that the members of any such committee should be agreeable to all parties concerned. The parties concerned being Prof. Anderson, the Administration, and the black students.

January 26 - Hearing continued.

January 29 - Students occupied Computer Centre.

Feb. 9 - Administration decided to grant students request. Professor suspended.

Feb. 10 - Students began to vacate Computer Centre-Administration subsequently refused to grant request on advice of Teachers' Union. Three black Professors had attempted for two months to get Administration to take the students seriously.

Feb. 11 - Students decided to take

including five Jamaicans - Lucille Whilby - Browns' Town, Richard Daley, George Brown, Denise Simpson, Douglas Mossop. Students were treated like criminals. They were denied bail and ill-treated by police.

News Media - created impression that students were dangerous criminals. Hearing was conducted in French only. No relatives or friends allowed in Court. Students sent to prison until time of hearing within eight days. The trial started Feb 18

Charges on students carry sentences ranging from 10 years to life imprisonment.

The charges laid are:-

- 1) Mischief
- 2) Conspiracy to commit arson.

SUPPORT

Cheques are to be made payable to the Feb 11th Defense Fund Committee, Box 502 Station B Montreal.

Contributions can be forwarded to the Guild of Undergraduates, Students' Union, UWI, Kingston 7, c/o Glenville Hinds.

COMING NEXT WEEK

BLACK POWER: ITS RELEVANCE TO JAMAICA
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